

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-04 FEAE-00 FPC-01

H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

RSC-01 SAM-01 OES-02 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00

FRB-01 AECE-00 NEA-06 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 IO-04 /098 W

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P R 311552Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4072

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 9267

FOR EUR/CE - BRUCE FLATIN

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: ENRG, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIA AND IEP ACCORD

REF: VIENNA 8661

1. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION THIS WEEK WITH ECONCOUNS, SEKTIONSCHEF FRANK SAID GOA INTENSIVELY STUDYING IEP FROM VIEWPOINT OF JOINING. HE SAID ONE OF THE MAIN PROBLEMS WAS WHETHER AUSTRIA COULD MEET MINIMUM RESERVE REQUIREMENTS WITHIN TWO-YEAR PERIOD. GOA ALSO PREOCCUPIED WITH LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS TO IMPLEMENT OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP. REGARDING NEUTRALITY, FRANK SAID NEUTRALITY DECLARATION WAS FOREGONE CONCLUSION AND IMPLIED THAT AUSTRIA WOULD FOLLOW SWITZERLAND AND SWEDEN IN THAT REGARD. HE SEEMED OPTIMISTIC ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR OBTAINING SUPPORT FOR SUCH A DECLARATION BY IEP CHARTER MEMBERS.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION WHETHER GOA WOULD DECIDE ON JOINING PRIOR TO CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON MID-NOVEMBER, FRANK SAID ISSUE WAS NO LONGER WHETHER TO JOIN BUT RATHER WHEN REPEAT WHEN. HE THOUGHT A PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE READIED FOR THE CHANCELLOR BY NEXT WEEK BUT HESITATED TO SPECULATE ON WHETHER RECOMMENDATION WOULD PROMPT IMMEDIATE GOA DECISION. HE FELT CERTAIN THAT CHANCELLOR KREISKY WOULD WISH TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON USG ATTITUDE TOWARDS ENERGY SITUATION INCLUDING IEP. FRANK NOTED THAT CHANCELLOR HAD SET FORTH PARAMETER OF AUSTRIAN VIEWS IN LECTURE DELIVERED OCTOBER 23 IN WIESBADEN, FRG, NOTING (A) CHANCELLOR'S EMPHASIS ON DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND EUROPEAN SITUATIONS; (B) HIS VIEW THAT RELATIONS OF WEST AND CENTRAL EUROPE WITH MIDDLE EAST "MUST BE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF THE US WITH THAT SECTION OF THE WORLD;" AND (C) THAT ALL-EUROPEAN ENERGY CONCEPT SHOULD LEAD TO COOPERATION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST.

3. TRANSLATED EXCERPTS OF CHANCELLOR'S WIESBADEN LECTURE WERE CONTAINED IN VIENNA FBIS (DTG R 281916Z OCT 74).

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4. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH DCM AND ECONCOUNS, STATE SECRETARY VESELSKY, ONE OF CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S CLOSEST ADVISORS, PLACED GREATER EMPHASIS ON NEUTRALITY PROBLEM THAN FRANK HAD AND WAS NOT AS SANGUINE THAT IT WOULD BE EASY TO FIT IEP MEMBERSHIP INTO AUSTRIA'S NEUTRALITY POSTURE. VESELSKY OBSERVED THAT AUSTRIA DIFFERS FROM SWITZERLAND AND SWEDEN SINCE

IT HAS SOME CRUDE OIL RESOURCES OF ITS OWN.
ACCORDINGLY, HE ADDED, QUESTION ARISES WHETHER SHARING
OF NATIONAL RESOURCES COULD BE JUSTIFIED IN CONTEXT
AUSTRIA'S NEUTRAL POSITION.

5. VESELSKY CONFIRMED KREISKY'S STRONG INTEREST IN
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY POLICY AS SEEN IN WASHINGTON, ADDING
THAT ALTHOUGH CHANCELLOR WOULD NOT GET INTO NUTS AND BOLTS
OF IEP, HE WOULD CERTAINLY SEEK US VIEWS ON THIS PROGRAM.
HUMES

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